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having close relation to the current discussions of Plato's own day and abounding in thrusts at contemporary philosophers.

It is evidently idle to try to pass judgment on such a book without a prolonged and intensive study of the dialogues under discussion. The success in the application of the method may reasonably justify a certain caution in accepting the results. But whatever be the final decision on its main contention, there can be no question of its distinct interest and value to the student of Plato. Its broad range of treatment, its careful analysis of argument, and its brilliant, if sometimes over-subtle, interpretation of particular passages render it a most stimulating and suggestive work.

SHERWOOD O. DICKERMAN

WILLIAMS COLLEGE

The House-Door on the Ancient Stage. By W. W. MOONEY. A doctoral dissertation presented at Princeton University. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins Co., 1914. Pp. 105.

This dissertation is one of a number recently issued dealing with ancient stagecraft, all owing their origin to the new Menander fragments. In chap. i Mr. Mooney proves that there was but one door at the back of the stage in Plautus and Terence and that the terms *ianua*, *fores*, *ostium* are applied to it without distinction. Chap. ii gives the vocabulary of knocking. In chap. iii the author attempts to prove that the actors do not, as is usually supposed, knock before entering through the door at the rear of the stage. To this we must return the verdict of *non liquet*; the cumulative evidence to the contrary is too strong. Chap. iv is a proof that the door opened outward, i.e., toward the stage. In chap. v the author discusses the interesting theory that the action of a play may be gauged by the number of entrances and exits, recognizing the fact that this is but a rough way of measurement. Pp. 66-104 are occupied by tables showing the words used in Greek and Latin plays to mark exits and entrances. An index is added. The value of the thesis is enhanced by the elaborate table of contents.

LOUIS E. LORD

OBERLIN COLLEGE

Roman Cooks. By CORNELIA GASKINS HARCUM. A doctoral dissertation presented at the Johns Hopkins University. Baltimore: J. H. Furst Co., 1914. Pp. 85.

This thesis will interest all who are dealing in a minute way with private life. The cook and all his works are thoroughly dealt with—including his nationality, name, characteristics, assistants, cost, and social position. The *macellum* and the *collegia* are also treated. It would, perhaps, be captious to object to the use of commas instead of parenthesis to set off references, and to the citation of such obvious works as the *Thesaurus* in the bibliography, but